

Amendments to the Specification:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Under “*Background of the Invention*,” paragraph 3, please make the following amendment:

While these ~~type~~ types of devices meet the needs of developing pitching accuracy, they are deficient, however, in that they neglect the development of fielding techniques. While there have been prior efforts toward developing targets which produce a more random return angle as a thrown baseball or softball rebounds, these devices have been successful in producing only very limited variance in the angles of deflection, particularly vertical deflection. Further, the known devices tend to be predictable in their rebound, providing only limited benefits for training purposes.

Between the heading “*Brief Description of the Drawings*,” and the paragraph beginning with “**FIG. 1** is . . .” and ending with “. . . the present invention,” please insert the following paragraph:

The description herein makes reference to the accompanying drawings wherein like referenced numerals refer to like parts throughout several views and wherein: